

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

5 *Sub B1* 1. A method of communicating broadcast information comprising the steps of:

a) causing a server to communicate a first stream representing digital broadcast information to a first user device wherein said server and said first user device are coupled to the Internet;

10 b) causing said server to communicate a second stream representing said broadcast information to a second user device wherein said second user device is coupled to the Internet;

c) causing said first user device to communicate a third stream representing said broadcast information to a third user device wherein said
15 third user device is coupled to the Internet; and

d) rendering, *res* pseudo simultaneously, said broadcast information on said first, second and third user devices.

2. A method as described in Claim 1 wherein said broadcast
20 information is a radio program.

3. A method as described in Claim 1 wherein said broadcast information is a television program.

25 4. A method as described in Claim 1 wherein said broadcast information is a computer program.

5. A method as described in Claim 1 further comprising the step of
e) in response to said first user device shutting down, causing said second
user device to communicate a fourth stream representing said broadcast
information to said third user device.

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6. A method as described in Claim 1 further comprising the steps
of:

adding a fourth user device on said Internet; and
causing said second user device to communicate a fourth stream
representing said broadcast information to said fourth user device.

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7. A method as described in Claim 1 further comprising the steps
of:

adding a fourth user device on said Internet; and
causing said server to communicate a fourth stream representing said
broadcast information to said fourth user device.

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8. A method of broadcasting information over a network of electronic
devices, said method comprising the steps of:

transmitting broadcast information from a server to a first group of
electronic devices of said network; and

achieving pseudo-simultaneous broadcasting of said broadcast
information for said first group and a second group of electronic devices by
forwarding said broadcast information from said first group of electronic devices
to said second group of electronic devices of said network.

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9. The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein said step of achieving pseudo-simultaneous broadcasting further comprises the steps of:

establishing direct communication links between respective ones of said first group of electronic devices and said second group of electronic devices;

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instructing said first group of electronic devices to transmit said broadcast information to said second group of electronic devices via said direct communication links.

10 10. The method as recited in Claim 9 further comprising the step of periodically updating status of said first and second groups of electronic devices.

15 11. The method as recited in Claim 10 further comprising the step of by-passing inactive electronics devices of said first group by re-routing said direct communication links.

20 12. The method as recited in Claim 10 further comprising the step of terminating direct communications links that are associated with inactive electronic devices of said first and said second group.

25 13. The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein said first and second groups of electronic devices each comprises a computer system configured for receiving said broadcast information and for forwarding said broadcast information.

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